Project for coastal conservation and management

4038. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:
SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI:
SHRI KESHUBHAI S. PATEL:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for an integrated project for coastal conservation and management was submitted to the Government by the Government of Gujarat or any other State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Central Government has initiated an Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project based on the approach suggested by Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Committee, that had reviewed the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991. The States identified for the project are Orissa, West Bengal and Gujarat.

(b) For implementing the above project, the Central Government has sought technical and financial assistance from multilateral donor agencies, including the World Bank. The project includes demarcation of Vulnerability line, mapping of ecologically sensitive areas, institutional development and capcity building, Control of pollution from land based activities and preparation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan for the coasal stretches of the above 3 identified coastal States.

Environmental research

4039. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the plan size of environmental research and its management;

(b) whether there is any propostal to give more autonomy to environmental research through private sectors and NGOs;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Tenth Plan allocation for environmental research & its management in the Ministry is Rs. 178 crores.

(b) to (d) Financial assistance is provided to various Research institutions/universities including Non-Government Organizations to carry out environmental Research. These organizations have full freedom to carry out research as per the specified objective and plan to work.

Phasing out of mercury

4040. SHRI P.R. RAJAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) how much tonnes of mercury is being imported to the country;

(b) whether his Ministry would implement some regulations to phase out his toxic metal from the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) As per information of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry 155.43 tonnes of mercury has been imported during 2005-06 into the country.

(b) and (c) At present there is not proposal to regulate phase out of mercury.

Global warming

4041. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal has been mooted by the Chairman of the Inter-Government Panel on Climate Change to set up a high -level taskforce to deal with the emerging climate- change scenario in the wake of first plant of IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report;